

4.—SRI K. V. SHANKARA GOWDA (Minister for Education).—

(a) Education is a State subject under the Indian Constitution. Subjects to be taught in schools under the control of Government can be decided by the State Government.

(b) Yes.

CALL ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE *re*: STRIKE BY THE WORKERS OF KIRLOSKAR ELECTRIC CO., HUBLI AND HARIHAR

Sri S. S. SHETTAR (Hubli).—Sir, I may be permitted to call the attention of the Hon'ble Minister for Home and Labour to the strike by the workers of Kirloskar Electric Company, Hubli and Harihar and arrest of workers and leaders on 7th December 1967.

Sri M. S. KRISHNAN (Malleswaram).—Sir, I call the attention of the Minister for Home and Labour to the strike by the workers of Kirloskar Electric Company, Hubli and Harihar and arrest of Workers and Leaders on 7th December 1967.

† **Sri M. V. RAMA RAO (Minister for Home and Labour).—**Sir, The workmen employed in the Kirloskar Electric Co., Ltd., Hubli numbering about 127 have gone on strike from 30th October 1967 as a protest against the termination of the services of 22 workmen from 15th September 1967. The General Secretary of the Kirloskar Electric Co. Workers' Union Hubli, served a notice on the management on 25th October 1967 stating that if the dismissed workmen were not reinstated by 30th October 1967, the workmen would go on indefinite strike from that date. The Assistant Labour Commissioner met the General Secretary and the President of the Union on 28th October 1967, and tried to persuade them not to precipitate matters by resorting to strike from 30th October 1967 as the Labour Officer had already fixed conciliation proceedings. The President agreed to postpone the strike till the Conciliation Proceedings were finalised. However, the workmen went on strike on 30th October 1967. The conciliation proceedings finally took place on 8th November 1967. On that date both the President and the General Secretary of the Union attended the meeting whereas the management did not attend. The management sent a detailed letter to the Conciliation Officer in that regard.

It would appear that the 22 workmen whose services were "terminated" had been appointed by the management on a contract of appointment for a specified period. According to the management, due to the general recession in the Engineering Industry and the consequent shrinkage in the demand for their products, they decided not to renew the temporary contracts of service of the workmen. Accordingly the services of the 22 workmen lapsed from 15th September 1967.

(SRI M. V. RAMA RAO)

The report of the Conciliation Officer in this matter has been received by Government. The question whether it is a fit case for reference to adjudication is actively under the consideration of Government.

In the Mysore Kirloskar Co., Ltd., Harihar, 2,400 workers went on strike from 13th November 1967. On 11th November 1967 the management put up a notice for laying off about 70 persons from the 13th to the 18th of November 1967. When this notice was put up on 11th November 1967, the Labour Union gave a notice to the management on 12th November 1967 informing them that the workers would go on strike from 13th November 1967. The management intended to lay-off the workers for a short period due to insufficient work. Similarly in the Hubli Branch of the Mysore Kirloskar Co. Ltd., the management put up a notice for laying off certain workers from the 13th to the 18th November, 1967. On seeing this notice the workers gave a notice of strike on the 12th November 1967 and went on strike on 14th November 1967. The number of workers in the Hubli Unit is 500. In the Hubli Unit, the workers have gone on strike not only against the lay-off of workers from the 13th to 18th November 1967 but also against the action of the management in charge-sheeting Mr. Gund, the Secretary of the Hubli Branch of the Employees' Association.

These two disputes were taken up for conciliation by the Deputy Labour Commissioner. There was some delay in the initiation of these proceedings as the workers desired that a single officer having jurisdiction over both Harihar and Hubli units should hold joint conciliation proceedings. These proceedings ended in failure on 30th November 1967. The report of the Conciliation Officer is expected and on its receipt a speedy decision will be taken in the matter of reference of the dispute for adjudication.

2-30 P.M.

SIXTH REPORT OF THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER.—I present the Sixth Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

Members' Representations

SRI H. SIDDAVEERAPPA.—I am not raising any discussion on this point. I am making an appeal to the Government because this is a very serious matter. In all the three factories in Hubli, Harihar and Bangalore there is some trouble unfortunately. It is tragic in the